

REMARKS

Claims 7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16-20, and 25-26 are now pending in the application. Independent claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the film thickness of dependent claim 24; accordingly claim 24 is cancelled. Independent claims 11 and 16 are also amended to include the film thickness (i.e., from about 2 mils to about 5 mils) as disclosed in the specification in paragraphs [0010], [0021], [0023], [0032], and in claims 19 and 20.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendment as Applicants believe it places the application in better condition for appeal. Namely, the 35 USC 103(a) rejection based on Stamper et al. (US Pat. No. 4,574,103) is rendered moot by the present amendment.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 – RAVINOVITCH IN VIEW OF KRAFT

Claims 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, and 24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ravinovitch et al. (US Pat. No. 4,424,292) (hereinafter Ravinovitch) in view of Kraft et al. (US Pat. No. 4,056,397) (hereinafter Kraft).

Independent claims 7, 11, 16, 19, and 20 include, among other features, an amount of infrared reflective pigment such that “there is essentially no transmittance of light of near infrared wavelength” and where the layer is “from about 2 mils to about 5 mils thick.”

Applicants submit that at least these two features are missing from Ravinovitch in view of Kraft. Argument in traverse of the rejection is presented in the “Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review” accompanying this amendment.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 – RAVINOVITCH IN VIEW OF KRAFT AND SULLIVAN

Claims 14 and 18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ravinovitch et al. (US Pat. No. 4,424,292) and in view of Kraft et al. (US Pat. No. 4,056,397) and Sullivan et al. (US Pat. No. 6,416,868) (hereinafter Sullivan).

Dependent claims 14 and 18 stem from independent claims 11 and 16, respectively. Independent claims 11 and 16 include among other features, an amount of infrared reflective pigment such that “there is essentially no transmittance of light of near infrared wavelength” and where the layer is “from about 2 mils to about 5 mils thick.”

Applicants submit that at least these two features are missing from the combination of Ravinovitch in view of Kraft and Sullivan. Argument in traverse of the rejection is presented in the “Pre-Appeal Brief Request for Review” accompanying this amendment.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 – STAMPER

Claims 7, 10, 11, 13, 16, 17, 25, and 26 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Stamper et al. (US Pat. No. 4,574,103) (hereinafter Stamper).

The thickness from dependent claim 24 (i.e., from about 2 mils to about 5 mils) is now incorporated into independent claim 7. Likewise, this thickness limitation is

incorporated into independent claims 11 and 16, based on paragraphs [0010], [0021], [0023], [0032], and claims 19 and 20.

Accordingly, the rejection of the claims based on the Stamper reference has been rendered moot, as all pending claims include the thickness of "from about 2 mils to about 5 mils" either from claims not rejected under Stamper or incorporated from the present specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 22, 2006

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

By: Anna M. Budde
Anna M. Budde, Reg. No. 35,085

WAZ/akb